



Queen of Angels  
Roman Catholic Church



Understanding and Preparing  
for the Funeral Liturgy at

# Queen of Angels Parish

2569 W. Victoria Drive  
Alpine, CA 91901

[www.queenofangels.org](http://www.queenofangels.org)

***We at Queen of Angels Parish*** extend our deepest sympathy to you and your family at the death of your loved one. It is our hope that the following information will assist you in preparing a meaningful and prayerful funeral service. If you have any questions, please contact us.

***Rev. Devdas Masillamony, Pastor***

*On behalf of the community and staff of Queen of Angels Parish*

## **ROMAN CATHOLIC RITE**

Roman Catholics have special prayers and rites for the dead. Our funeral tradition, described in the **Order of Christian Funerals**, consists of three distinct movements:

1. An optional **Vigil for the Deceased** or “wake.” This may take place in the home of the deceased, in the funeral home or at the church.
2. The **Funeral Liturgy** in the Church on the day of burial. This normally, but not always, includes the celebration of the Eucharist. Either the body of the deceased or the cremated remains are present in the sanctuary.
3. The **Rite of Committal** at the graveside. This flows from the Final Commendation celebrated in the church.

## **FUNERAL LITURGY**

The Funeral Liturgy is the central liturgical celebration of the Christian community for the deceased. There are two forms of the Funeral Liturgy: the Funeral Mass or the Funeral Liturgy outside Mass. At the Funeral Liturgy the community gathers with the family and friends of the deceased to offer prayers and intercessions for the deceased, to provide support for those who are mourning, to give praise and thanks to God for Christ’s victory over sin and death, to commend the deceased to God’s tender mercy and compassion, and to seek strength in the proclamation of the paschal mystery.

## **EULOGY**

Before the liturgy commences, a member of the family or a friend may speak in remembrance of the deceased (“eulogy”). This needs to be arranged with the presider when planning the funeral. Guidelines for the eulogy include:

1. One person is selected for the remembrance.
2. The remembrance should be brief, between 3 and 5 minutes, approx. 300-500 words. It should be written ahead of time and printed for use.

The **Order of Christian Funerals** also permits speaking in remembrance of the deceased at the Vigil for the Deceased. This is the preferred time for multiple individuals to share remembrances of the deceased. Devotions, such as the rosary, may also be added.

## **READINGS**

We will provide you with a copy of the booklet “*Through Death to Life*”, which contains a wide variety of appropriate Scripture passages, as well as assist you in planning a meaningful and personal funeral liturgy for your loved one.

## **MUSIC**

Music is an essential component of the Funeral Liturgy. All music and musicians are to be approved by the pastor.

## **GUEST BOOK**

There is a small table at the entrance of the church on which you may place a guest book. Other items, such as pictures and albums, can be placed on easels or additional tables in the vestibule with advance notice.

## **FLOWERS & MEMORABILIA**

Flowers may be delivered to the church after 9 a.m. on the day of the funeral. Because of limited space, some of the arrangements may be placed at the entrance of the church. Flowers are never placed directly on the altar. Pictures or other memorabilia of the deceased may be placed at the entrance of the church, but not in the sanctuary.

## **RECEPTION**

If you desire to have a reception in our Parish Hall after the funeral Mass, you may check with the coordinator for availability of the hall. If our hall is used for reception, you will need to supply your own plates, napkins, cups, coffee, etc. We have two refrigerators for your use. Joe Agosta caters many funerals here and brings his own supplies, servers, etc. His phone number is 619-733-0212.

*(Please note: While the church may be able to provide the space, please personally coordinate all aspects of the reception, from setup to cleanup. It is your responsibility to make sure that the hall is cleaned and returned to its original condition.)*

## **STIPENDS**

Please contact the parish office for the customary offering to the church and use of the hall. Fees for music are paid through the parish office or sometimes handled through the mortuary, if they collected the stipends from the family.

## **CONTACTS:**

Rev. Devdas Masillamony	<i>Pastor</i>
Dcn. Fred Thornton	<i>Deacon</i>
Kristi Scherbaum	<i>Funeral Coordinator</i>
Dorie Arietta	<i>Parish Office</i>

**Parish Office:** (619) 445-2145 - office (619) 445-9682 - fax

# FAMILY CHECK LIST

- Contact the parish office to set the date for the funeral.  
Coordinator – **Kristi Scherbaum (619) 445-2145**  
**Email: kristi@queenofangels.org**

## LITURGY

- Meet with parish coordinator to plan liturgy:  
Select Scripture readings, and discuss options for family participation.

## MUSIC

- Arrange for music - Contact the office
- Provided by: (For any outside Musician)

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**Eulogy**    Yes – designate below                       No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Interment**    Immediately following    Not at this time

**Reception**    Yes    No  
 Parish Hall for reception    Yes    No  
 Contact parish office to reserve parish hall

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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